



RESPONSIBLE REFORM FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS DEMOCRATS.SENATE.GOV/REFORM

South Dakota: The Cost of Inaction

South Dakota Families Suffer

South Dakota insurance premiums skyrocket

- ✓ In 2000, family health insurance purchased through an employer cost \$6,760.
- ✓ In 2006, the same family health insurance cost \$9,875.
- ✓ By 2016, the same insurance is projected to cost \$16,971, a 72 percent increase over 2006, which will consume 30.5 percent of projected South Dakota median family income.

More uninsured South Dakotans

- ✓ Every day, 30 South Dakotans lose their health insurance.
- ✓ During the last two years, 184,000 South Dakotans under age 65 went without health insurance for some time, which is 27.3 percent of the under 65 population.
- ✓ In 2007, 85,556 South Dakotans under age 65 were uninsured for the entire year, which is 12.7 percent of the under 65 population.

South Dakotans pay higher premiums due to the uninsured

- ✓ South Dakota families pay a “hidden tax” of \$1,100 on their health insurance premiums due to the unpaid costs of care for the uninsured.

Fewer choices due to consolidated market

- ✓ The two largest health insurance companies in South Dakota have a combined market share of 71 percent.

South Dakota Businesses Suffer

Fewer South Dakotans have health coverage at work

- ✓ In 2002, 68.3 percent of South Dakotans under age 65 had employer-sponsored health insurance.
- ✓ In 2007, 63.4 percent of South Dakotans had coverage through their employer.

Fewer South Dakota small businesses offer health coverage

- ✓ In 2000, 32.0 percent of small businesses were able to offer health insurance coverage to their employees.
- ✓ In 2006, 28.5 percent of small businesses offered health benefits.

South Dakota Economy Suffers

Health care spending climbs

- ✓ In 2004, South Dakota spent \$4.1 billion on health care.
- ✓ This spending level represents \$5,327 per capita, and is 14.4 percent of the Gross State Product.

Lost economic output of the uninsured due to shorter lives and poorer health

- ✓ This year, the South Dakota economy will lose \$240 million - \$480 million due to the shorter lives and poorer health of the uninsured.